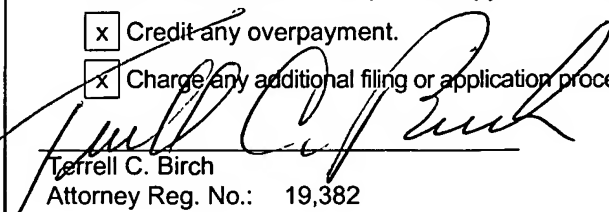




SPW

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER				Docket No. 0717-0523P	
Application No. 10/688,873-Conf. #9360		Filing Date October 21, 2003		Examiner L. Vinh	
				Art Unit 1765	
Applicant(s): Hideyuki KANZAWA					
Invention: Contact plug processing and a contact plug					
MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450					
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.					
CLAIMS AS AMENDED					
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid	Number Extra Claims Present	Rate	
Total Claims	19	- 20 =		x	
Independent Claims	2	- 3 =		x	
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					
Other fee (please specify):					
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:					0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large Entity <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for this amendment.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. <u>02-2448</u> as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17.					
 Terrell C. Birch Attorney Reg. No.: 19,382				Dated: <u>March 14, 2006</u>	
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP 8110 Gatehouse Road Suite 100 East P.O. Box 747 Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747 (703) 205-8000					



Docket No.: 0717-0523P
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Hideyuki KANZAWA

Application No.: 10/688,873

Confirmation No.: 9360

Filed: October 21, 2003

Art Unit: 1765

For: Contact plug processing and a contact plug

Examiner: L. Vinh

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated December 15, 2005, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.